

MUNICIPAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability (TCDPS) collaborates with other partners to offer municipal board trainings to meet New York State professional development requirements and to educate municipal officials and staff on relevant topics. TCDPS welcomes suggestions about training topics of interest.

2019 Training Events

Fall Local Government Conference was held at Tompkins Cortland Community College (TC3) in Dryden on October 24, 2019. TCDPS staff partnered with TC3, Town of Dryden, and NYS Department of State to bring a diversity of presenters on the following topics: municipal ethics, open meetings law, NYS retirement reporting, State Comptroller audit process, disaster preparedness and response, agricultural districts law, SEQR: Short EAF, case law updates.

Wetlands training was held in Groton on October 29, 2019. TCDPS and Soil and Water Conservation District staff partnered to present an hour-long training on wetland definitions, regulations, and maps and demonstrated how to use online mapping resources.

Stream buffer workshop was held in Ithaca on November 21, 2019. A committee of the Water Resources Council coordinated the event with speakers from the Upper Susquehanna Coalition, TCDPS, NYS Water Resources Institute, and Soil and Water Conservation District. The workshop included talks on riparian buffers, buffer protection tools, watershed planning, project implementation, and case studies. Videos are available for each presentation (approximately 20-30 minutes each): cctompkins.org/buffers **You are welcome to use these videos for your own in-house training.**

Incremental Development Alliance, a national nonprofit that coaches on implementation of neighborhood-scale development, hosted four trainings in 2019. In April they gave a public presentation on the Incremental Development movement. Video of that introductory presentation is available at <http://youtu.be/wq4rHuOzCoQ?t=85>, and slides can be viewed at http://tompkinscountyny.gov/files2/planning/housing_choices/documents/Ithaca%20Inc%20Dev.pdf.

In June IncDev provided a half-day ticketed seminar for prospective small developers, followed by a half-day training with municipal staff and board members in September. IncDev returned in October to conduct a zoning analysis exercise as well as a training for TCDPS staff to be able to replicate and improve on that process for additional municipalities.

2020 Training Events – in the planning stages

Fall Local Government Conference will be held at TC3 mid-September through November. Tentative topics include procurement/bid policy, cyber security, stormwater plan review, reading a site plan. **What topics would you like?**

Wetlands training available upon request.

Stream buffer workshop: site visit – planning is underway for a field-oriented stream buffer training in May.

NYS Department of State Resources

Written publications: <https://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/publications.html>

Online and Webinar trainings: <https://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/lut/index.html>

Winter 2020 training schedule: <https://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/pdf/LGTrainingSchedule.pdf> (includes courses in Auburn and Corning in April)

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